

(Washington, DC) - Today, Rep. Jason Altmire (PA-4) applauded the Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse and Cleveland-based BioEnterprise for their announcement that they will forge a regional partnership to attract venture capital to western Pennsylvania and northeast Ohio's emerging medical manufacturing and bio-tech industries. The effort by the two medical consortiums, which are comprised of businesses, universities and hospitals, including the world-renowned University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Cleveland Clinic, represents a new approach to regionalization.

"There are over 700 bioscience companies employing 25,000 people from Pittsburgh to Cleveland," said Rep. Altmire. **"Joining forces across state lines will create a technology corridor in western Pennsylvania and northeast Ohio which will compete not only with Boston, Silicon Valley and Austin, Texas, but also on a global scale. I plan to work closely with other Pennsylvania and Ohio members of Congress to coordinate our federal efforts and help promote this strategic regional partnership."**

The Pittsburgh-Cleveland area's combined resources exceed those of other national health care hotspots and represent over \$1 billion annually in combined National Institutes of Health and industry health care research funding. The region's top bio-medical research facilities include Carnegie-Mellon University, University of Pittsburgh, and UPMC in western Pennsylvania; and Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland Clinic, Summa Health System, and University Hospitals in northeast Ohio.

"I commend Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse and BioEnterprise for taking this logical next step in their work to further promote innovation, technology and entrepreneurship in our region," stated Rep. Altmire. **"Their partnership should serve as a model for regional cooperation in other sectors of our economy."**